

**House File 345 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 345

BY HUNTER

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act establishing a community reinvestment commission  
2 concerning law enforcement funding.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80I.1 Title.

2 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "*Community*  
3 *Reinvestment Act*".

4 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 80I.2 Purpose.

5 This chapter establishes a commission to examine law  
6 enforcement funding in this state, provide evidence-based  
7 strategies to generate savings and increase public safety  
8 by reallocating funds toward proven methods to support  
9 communities, and report annually with proposed action for the  
10 executive and legislative branches.

11 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 80I.3 Community reinvestment  
12 commission.

13 1. A community reinvestment commission is established to  
14 undertake a comprehensive review of law enforcement funding in  
15 this state and, using a data-driven community-based approach,  
16 to develop policy recommendations for legislative and executive  
17 consideration to reduce excessive policing and reinvest the  
18 money saved into proven strategies and programs to support  
19 communities and reduce crime.

20 2. a. The governor shall appoint five voting members  
21 each for a four-year term beginning and ending as provided in  
22 section 69.19 and subject to confirmation by the senate as  
23 follows:

24 (1) A county sheriff, mayor, nonsupervisory police officer,  
25 or a chief of police of a department with fewer than eleven  
26 police officers.

27 (2) A person who is knowledgeable about Iowa's juvenile  
28 justice system.

29 (3) A person representing the general public who is not  
30 employed in any law enforcement, judicial, or corrections  
31 capacity.

32 (4) A person who is either a crime victim or who represents  
33 a crime victim organization.

34 (5) A person who represents a recognized civil rights  
35 organization that advocates for minorities.

1     *b.* Additional voting members of the commission, each serving  
2 a four-year term, shall include one representative from each  
3 of the following:

- 4     (1) The Iowa coalition for collective change.
- 5     (2) The American civil liberties union of Iowa.
- 6     (3) The Iowa county attorneys association.
- 7     (4) The commission on the status of African Americans.
- 8     (5) The board of parole.
- 9     (6) The department of justice.
- 10    (7) The state public defender.
- 11    (8) The governor's office of drug control policy.
- 12    (9) The commission of Latino affairs.
- 13    (10) The commission of Asian and Pacific Islander affairs.
- 14    (11) The commission of Native American affairs.

15     *c.* The chief justice of the supreme court shall designate  
16 one member who is a district judge and one member who is either  
17 a district associate judge or associate juvenile judge. The  
18 members appointed pursuant to this paragraph shall serve as ex  
19 officio, nonvoting members for four-year terms beginning and  
20 ending as provided in section 69.19, unless the member ceases  
21 to serve as a judge.

22     *d.* The commission shall include two members of the senate,  
23 one appointed by the majority leader of the senate and one  
24 appointed by the minority leader, and two members of the house  
25 of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the house  
26 and one appointed by the minority leader, who shall serve as  
27 ex officio, nonvoting members.

28     *e.* The following additional members shall serve as nonvoting  
29 members of the commission:

- 30     (1) The commissioner of public safety.
- 31     (2) The director of the department of corrections.
- 32     (3) The director of the division of criminal and juvenile  
33 justice planning of the department of human rights.
- 34     (4) The director of the department of human services.
- 35     (5) A representative from the crime victim assistance

1 division of the attorney general's office.

2 (6) Two representatives from county or municipal law  
3 enforcement, as designated by the attorney general.

4 (7) Two representatives from other governmental agencies  
5 that work in social services, to be selected by the governor  
6 from a list provided by the legislative representatives.

7 (8) Two representatives from nonprofit organizations that  
8 work to address police violence and the use of excessive force,  
9 to be selected by the governor from a list provided by the  
10 legislative representatives.

11 3. *a.* A majority of the membership of the commission  
12 shall constitute a quorum and shall meet at the call of the  
13 chairperson or upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the  
14 commission.

15 *b.* All members must be notified in writing of a meeting  
16 of the commission at least five days before the date on which  
17 the meeting is scheduled. Meetings shall be held at least  
18 quarterly.

19 *c.* The commission may appoint a workgroup to provide  
20 additional information and advice to the commission.

21 4. Each voting member shall be entitled to appoint a single  
22 individual to serve as a proxy for the duration of the member's  
23 term. The proxy may attend a meeting if the member is unable to  
24 attend a meeting. The designation of a proxy by a member shall  
25 be in writing and shall be transmitted to the chairperson of  
26 the commission.

27 5. Members shall not receive compensation for their service  
28 on the commission, but shall be reimbursed for actual expenses  
29 incurred in the performance of their duties by the agency or  
30 department which they represent as an official or employee.

31 6. The commission may call upon any department, agency,  
32 office, or political subdivision of the state for information  
33 or assistance as necessary in the performance of its duties.  
34 The information or assistance shall be furnished to the extent  
35 allowed within the resources and authority of the department,

1 agency, office, or political subdivision. This subsection does  
2 not require the production or opening of any records which are  
3 required by law to be kept private or confidential.

4 7. The commission shall do all of the following:

5 a. Undertake a comprehensive review of state and local law  
6 enforcement budgets in the state and assess such budgets upon  
7 consideration of all of the following:

8 (1) Peer-reviewed research on effective policing practices.

9 (2) Peer-reviewed research on crime prevention.

10 (3) Peer-reviewed research on policing alternatives and  
11 community investment as a tool to support public safety.

12 (4) Law enforcement budgets from other states.

13 b. (1) Solicit public input on the state's law enforcement  
14 systems and policy options to generate savings, increase public  
15 safety, and reinvest in communities through evidence-based  
16 practices. The subjects of public input shall include but not  
17 be limited to community needs and best practices for all of the  
18 following:

19 (a) Youth programs.

20 (b) Mental health services.

21 (c) Housing and homelessness prevention services.

22 (d) Job training.

23 (e) Job creation.

24 (f) Small business support.

25 (2) Public input shall be solicited through but not be  
26 limited to an online forum and five public hearings.

27 (a) Public hearings shall be held as follows:

28 (i) Prior to the issuance of a final commission annual  
29 report as provided in subsection 8, paragraph "b".

30 (ii) At venues in communities significantly affected by  
31 policing practices.

32 (iii) At dispersed geographic locations throughout the  
33 state.

34 (iv) At times intended to maximize attendance.

35 (b) The online forum and public hearing shall provide an

1 opportunity for the public to submit testimony orally or in  
2 writing.

3 *c.* Develop and make recommendations regarding public policy  
4 to generate savings, increase public safety, and reinvest in  
5 communities through evidence-based practices, including but not  
6 limited to the community needs and best practices specified in  
7 paragraph *b*.

8 *d.* Engage in strategic planning for the implementation of  
9 policy recommendations.

10 *e.* Develop a plan for measuring the impact of policy  
11 changes and the reallocation of resources recommended by the  
12 commission.

13 *f.* Make recommendations based upon an affirmative vote of a  
14 majority of the commission members.

15 8. *a.* The commission shall issue an annual report of the  
16 commission's findings and recommendations for legislative  
17 and executive action, shall make the report available to the  
18 public online, and shall deliver the report to the governor,  
19 the general assembly, and the chief justice of the Iowa supreme  
20 court. The first report shall be submitted no later than  
21 January 1, 2022, and by January 1 each year thereafter.

22 *b.* The commission shall hold at least two public hearings  
23 to solicit public comment on a draft annual report within the  
24 two-month period preceding the final issuance of the report.

25 *c.* Beginning with the second annual report, the commission  
26 shall include a summary of comments received at the public  
27 hearings and any response by a department or agency to the  
28 comments.

29 9. Reports prepared by the commission shall include  
30 recommendations that state departments and agencies can  
31 implement without additional legislative action. State  
32 departments and agencies implementing recommendations shall  
33 issue public replies to commission reports indicating how the  
34 recommendations have been or will be acted upon and shall  
35 include any obstacles faced by the state department or agency

1 in acting upon the recommendations.

2 10. For recommendations which require additional action by  
3 the legislature, the commission report shall include specific  
4 requests and shall outline the specific legislative action  
5 needed including budget requests.

6 11. The commission shall terminate upon submission of its  
7 fifth annual report on January 1, 2026, if not extended by  
8 further legislative action or executive order.

9 12. This chapter is repealed July 1, 2026.

10 EXPLANATION

11 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

13 This bill establishes a community reinvestment commission  
14 concerning law enforcement funding.

15 The bill establishes the community reinvestment commission  
16 to examine law enforcement funding in this state, provide  
17 evidence-based strategies to generate savings and increase  
18 public safety by reallocating funds toward proven methods to  
19 support communities, and report annually with proposed action  
20 for the executive and legislative branches.

21 The bill specifies the members of the commission including  
22 governor appointees, stakeholders, and legislative and judicial  
23 branch members.

24 The bill provides that the commission shall undertake  
25 a comprehensive review of and assess state and local law  
26 enforcement budgets; solicit public input on the state's law  
27 enforcement systems and policy options to generate savings,  
28 increase public safety, and reinvest in communities through  
29 evidence-based practices; develop and make recommendations  
30 regarding public policy to generate savings, increase public  
31 safety, and reinvest in communities through evidence-based  
32 practices; engage in strategic planning for the implementation  
33 of policy recommendations; develop a plan for measuring the  
34 impact of policy changes and the reallocation of resources  
35 recommended by the commission; and make recommendations based

1 upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the commission  
2 members. The commission must issue an annual report of the  
3 commission's findings and recommendations for legislative and  
4 executive action, which will be available to the public online,  
5 and which will be delivered to the governor, the general  
6 assembly, and the chief justice of the Iowa supreme court. The  
7 first report shall be submitted no later than January 1, 2022,  
8 and by January 1 each year thereafter. The commission must  
9 hold at least two public hearings to solicit public comment on  
10 an annual report within the two months preceding the issuance  
11 of each report.

12 The bill provides that reports prepared by the commission  
13 shall include recommendations that state departments and  
14 agencies can implement without additional legislative action.  
15 For recommendations which require additional action by the  
16 legislature, the commission report shall include specific  
17 requests and shall outline the specific legislative action  
18 needed, including budget requests.

19 The bill provides that the commission shall terminate upon  
20 submission of its fifth annual report on January 1, 2026, if  
21 not extended by further legislative action or executive order.

22 The bill is repealed July 1, 2026.